

Community Conversation Feedback from Focus Questions

June 8, 2016 Kernodle Senior Center

Having learned more about the nature of retaliatory crime in Burlington, what are your safety concerns?

- Response times
- Retaliation
- Wrong place/ wrong time bystanders
- Retail outlets at night
- Drugs
- Problem areas
- Rental properties
- Gangs
- School safety
- Know your neighbors
- Joblessness
- Movie safety
- School safety programs
- Graduation rates
- Church involvement
- Victim safety
- Police diversity
- Witness protection
- Mentors
- Access to guns/ammunition
- Listening skills
- Bullying
- Offender release information

Pink Cards: What do you see as the primary cause of violent crime in Burlington?

- Too much free time
- Lack of parental/home support of youth
- No core values
- Lack of education/ Poor graduation rates
- Instant gratification rules behavior
- Parenting
- Drugs
- Gangs

- Lack of activities and jobs
- No mentors or people to listen
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Lack of parental supervision
- Poverty
- Drugs
- Music instructing acts
- Video game influence
- Inability to discipline at school
- Parent already into crime
- No jobs or responsibilities
- Little to no self-esteem from parents
- Lack of respect for authority
- Drugs
- Broken homes
- Discipline
- Peer pressure
- Disrespect
- Gang conflict
- Wanting to fit in
- Lack of structured activities
- Pride
- Lack of education
- Lack of jobs
- Lack of opportunity
- Lack of understanding for different cultures
- Drugs/ gangs / Sex offenders
- Easy access to interstate
- Easy access to guns/ammunition
- No communication in families
- Drugs
- Hurt and pain are not addressed within family dynamics
- Unemployment rate
- No programs for kids
- Lack of community involvement
- Too much free time
- Gangs
- Drugs
- Home life

- Neighborhood breakdown
- Poverty
- Boredom/ lack of interests, skills, hobbies
- Lack of support outlets
- People not believing the problems of youth even when they tell someone
- The path/ traffic of drugs from rural areas
- Drugs
- Joblessness
- Lack of education
- Parents/ Churches/ Schools / Community programs
- Teenagers without opportunities
- Drugs
- Poverty
- Lack of respect
- Gangs
- Too much access to guns
- Lack of family stability
- Lack of education
- Joblessness
- Poverty, poor nutrition
- Breakdown of family communication
- School/ Peer pressure
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Joblessness
- Lack of education
- Weak family unit
- Attitude: angry all of the time and disrespectful
- Gangs
- Facebook communication is intimidating
- Lack of education
- Jobs
- Parents not disciplined
- Lack of neighborhood discipline assistance
- Lack of home training
- Lack of resources
- Lack of education
- Lack of outside programs
- Lack of religion
- Lack of officers/resources

- Knowing officers in neighborhoods
- Lack of jobs
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Drugs
- Too much idle time
- Kids from broken homes
- Anger
- Exclusion from mainstream
- No values
- No respect for anything
- Broken homes
- Lack of religion
- Lack of mental health
- Non-severity of juvenile justice
- Nothing proactive (not warning people about beefs/ gang activity)
- Teachers act like kids and look the other way

Green Cards: What can the police do better to keep you and your family safe?

- See Something, Say Something Bumper Stickers
- Keep educating the public
- Vehicle for public to inquire when offenders are released
- Police become more involved in community, especially problem areas
- More man power to be more visible
- Provide protection for witnesses
- Paying attention to kids in trouble early
- Parents need to discipline so police don't have to get involved
- More positive interactions
- More diversity
- More gang knowledge
- Employ black males, especially those who have "lived that life"
- Make Crimestoppers anonymity much better known
- More juvenile consequences and education for offenders
- Show them THIS slideshow
- Get illegal guns off the streets
- More patrols
- More officers
- Signs that read "patrolled by the BPD"
- Better lighted neighborhoods
- School assemblies

- Church assemblies
- Visibility
- Public Forums
- More visible
- More personal contact
- Involve more young people
- Community policing/ foot patrols
- More intervention in schools
- Having more approachable officers
- More visibility
- More education/programs
- More community forums/education
- More community patrols
- More active role in schools
- More police going into neighborhoods
- More visibility in neighborhoods
- More use of media (TV and newspaper get out the outcome of these meetings besides just being online)
- Encourage people to do the BPD Citizens Academy
- BPD partner more with citizens
- Create image of police which children don't fear
- More community presence
- Interact with specific communities
- Churches and the police partner better
- Patrol neighborhoods more
- Speak in schools
- Keep neighborhoods informed
- Partner with churches on training
- More interaction with kids
- More visibility
- Show that police are human
- Change zones so they are smaller in high crime areas
- Use technology- gun fire sensors
- Educate public on Crimestoppers
- Offender search document
- Mini police stations in neighborhoods
- Police ambassadors
- Mentorship
- Horse patrol
- Bike patrol

- Foot patrol
- Police being actively involved in the community
- Canvas neighborhoods
- Police sponsoring gifts (water, something simple)
- More police moving into neighborhoods
- Stationary police cars
- Positive interaction with children (basketball, etc.)
- Events held by the police in the community
- Proper police follow-up
- More visibility
- Better response time
- More recruiting
- More diversity
- Officers to open communication with young African American males
- Free gun turn-in more often than once a year
- Consider a stop-and-frisk program
- Recognize the asset of the Latino community (vey family oriented)
- Turn-in gun program
- Go into schools and teach about gun violence
- Programs for kids
- More vehicle searches

Yellow Cards: What can you do better to keep yourself and your family safe?

- Better discipline
- Strengthen family connections
- Love and attention to children early
- Stay at home
- Protect with guns
- Community connections strengthened
- When in question, call the police
- Neighborhood watches
- Lock doors/ homes/ vehicles
- Be aware of surroundings
- Watch your kids
- Report anything we see
- Be aware of strangers walking or driving down our street
- Keep watch on our neighbors
- Move bedroom to back of house
- Outside lighting
- Security cameras

- Motion detectors
- Speak up/ call 911/ stand up for the right causes
- Be aware/ know your neighbor
- Keep doors locked
- Be aware of surroundings
- Stay proactive in neighborhood watch
- Attend community conversations
- Privacy fences
- Alarm systems
- Raise personal awareness to where the problems are
- Lighting
- Trim shrubs
- Know your neighbors
- Lock your doors
- Report suspicious activity
- Lighting
- Security systems
- Activity in community
- Don't deal drugs
- Report suspicious behavior
- Use the buddy system
- Talk more with the kids
- Keep track of kids' social media and cell phone usage
- Alert Crimestoppers to growing beef
- Encourage these boys to play ball, work, play music, go to church
- Help fund school programs
- Keep in contact with people in household
- Neighborhood watch
- Bilingual/ English speaking police
- More community meetings
- Be aware
- Be involved
- Education
- Join a neighborhood watch
- Alarm system for home
- Know your neighbors
- Phone 911 or Crimestoppers as needed
- Lock your doors
- Ask police to evaluate your home for safety practices
- Attend community meetings and be more informed

- Be aware of surroundings and call with observations of out of the ordinary situations
- Teach our kids to speak up and be responsible
- Neighborhood watch
- Watch surroundings at all times
- Don't hesitate to call 911
- Keep doors locked
- Know neighbors
- Alarm systems
- Get good description if necessary
- Be role models and commit time to mentoring
- Communication with law enforcement
- Pay attention
- Proper exterior lighting
- Neighborhood watch
- Volunteer
- Intervention
- Know neighbors
- Be friendly
- Be careful where you go and who you go with
- Call Crimestoppers
- These community meetings are great. Help us talk.
- More or better relationships within the community
- Share the knowledge
- Keep eyes and ears open
- Report crimes or suspicious activity
- Create community watch group
- Report crimes when they happen
- Watch surroundings
- Interact with youth and listen
- Be mentors
- Community creating activities for youth
- Prayer vigils for victims
- Vote
- Get involved with community around you
- Relevant phone numbers readily available
- More attention to surroundings
- Know your rights
- Neighborhood watch
- Family emergency plan for crimes
- Awareness of surroundings

- Communication
- Accept responsibility for yourself

Orange Cards: What should community stakeholders do collaboratively to reduce gun violence in Burlington?

- ABSS: teach gun safety in the home, reexamine the suspension system/standards, get rid of troublemakers, have a better school
- ABSS: Have teachers listen and not be afraid to act, Follow up on kids in trouble early, Improve graduation rates
- ABSS: Identify at-risk students in early years and develop programs for mentoring and team building
- ABSS: Every elementary school should have a partnership with a local faith community
- ABSS: In-school suspension, follow-up with students who have been placed within suspension more than twice by a counsellor or trained teacher
- ABSS: Mentor life education even in traditional schools, country schools get involved with city schools, work more closely with law enforcement
- ABSS: metal detectors in schools, Report suspicious kids who talk about guns or violence, Mentorship programs, Programs with officers involved in the school system
- ABSS: have community meetings within the community not the school itself
- ABSS: Recognize signs and symptoms of a troubled kids, more interaction with parents
- ABSS: Screen bus drivers more for children's safety
- ABSS: Teach trades, Leadership skills, afterschool programs
- ABSS: Teach respect in schools, more activities with structure
- ABSS: Gun safety programs
- ABSS: How do we untie their hands to discipline with teeth?, more focus on bullying, partner with parents or bullying victims to attach the problem causers
- ABSS: Introduction of safety programs to elementary schools
- ABSS: Better counseling programs for kids and families
- ABSS: Surprise drug tests at schools, more gun education and awareness programs
- Churches: Become more involved with programs for kids and families
- Churches: Do more outreach and bring people together
- Churches: Prayer by churches and all citizens
- Churches: Communities and the schools should ensure that everyone can get to Pre-K
- Churches: Live by example and be a support system for single parents and families, mentor
- Churches: Get involved in their neighborhoods, become the center for all neighbors, mentor and tutoring programs
- Churches: Try to use facilities more fully to help afterschool activities
- Churches: Partnering committees to address gun violence, awareness, teaching values and respect for others
- Churches: Afternoon activities, mentorship programs

- Churches: Get out and get involved
- Churches: Interact with youth
- DSS: Follow up on reports of neglect
- DSS: Remove some lost kids from homes before it reaches this point
- DSS: Early detection of signs and symptoms of a troubled kid, more interaction with parents
- DSS: More in-home checks for at-risk families, just being there- not looking for guns
- Courts: Not let out so soon, problem goes deeper than prison, programs in prison to prevent return to crime
- Courts: Hold those responsible accountable
- Juvenile Services: Work programs for summer
- Juvenile Justice: Take violent offenders more serious, increase education about these cases, stricter POs more contact and harsher consequences, differential violent offenses and drug offenses
- Parents: Teach kids personal responsibility, to stay in school, and self-respect
- Parents: Take responsibility more seriously
- Parents: Education, hold your family accountable, secure your items (guns/cars/ ammo
- Business: Be available to give kids something to do and somewhere to go, donate to parks and facilities for programs for youth and teens
- Pawn Shops: Keep track of guns and ammo that are bought and sold
- Business: Crack down on gun licenses
- Community: Have safe events for kids to mingle and have fun to deter gang involvement
- Parks & Rec: Create new programs for underprivileged kids
- Award folks who have changed their ways
- NAACP: More involved